

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CANBER 00508 260231Z

42

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20

STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 FEA-02

OMB-01 DRC-01 /181 W

----- 095789

R 260215Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2419

INFO AMCONSUL BRISBANE

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

AMCONSUL PERTH

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

UNCLAS CANBERRA 0508

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, AS

SUBJ: WHITLAM ANNOUNCES TARRIF REDUCTIONS

ON DOMESTIC ELECTRIC APPLIANCES

REF: CANBERRA A-285 , DECEMBER 5, 1973,

ITEM 4(NOTAL)

1. IN FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION OF HIS PROTECTION-REDUCING, INDUSTRY-RATIONALIZING, IMPORT-STIMULATING TARRIF POLICY (REFAIR), PRIME MINISTER WHITLAM ON JAN 23 ANNOUNCED ACCEPTANCE WITH MINOR MODIFICATION OF TARRIFF BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS REDUCING DUTIES ON VARIETY OF DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES.

2. GOODS AFFECTED ARE MAINLY "WHITE GOODS" -- REFRIGERATORS, UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 CANBER 00508 260231Z

WASHING MACHINES, CLOTHES DRYERS , ETC. REDUCTIONS TO BE

EFFECTIVE IN TWO GROUPS: ONE GROUP NOW DUTIABLE AT 26-30 PERCENT TO BE IMMEDIATELY SUBJECT TO 25 PERCENT RATE AND SECOND GROUP NOW AT 40 PERCENT RATE TO BE RDUCED OVER TWYO -YEAR PERIOD TO 25 PERCENT LEVEL. (TEXTS OF WHITLAM ANNOUNCEMENT AND TARIFF BOARD REPORT BEING POUCHED SEPARTELY).

3. REACTION REPORTED BY PRESS TOOK CUSTOMARY LINES WITH INDUSTRY SPOKESMEN EITHER PREDICTING LARGE EMPLOYMENT DISLOCATIONS OR ESPRESSING DOUBT BENEFITS WOULD EVER REACH PUBLIC. FEDERABL SECRETARY OF ELECTRICAL TRADES UNION DOLAN REPORTEDLY CALLED FOR URGENT ACTU MEETING OF UNIONS AFFECTED, AND TO HAVE CRITICIZED GOVERNMENT FOR FAILURE AGAIN TO CONSULT UNION MOVEMENT BEFORE TARIFF DECISION.

4.EMBASSY COMMENT: ALTHOUGH TARIFF BOARD REPORT UNDER PREPARATION FOR SEVERAL MONTHS, TIMING OF ITS RELEASE, FOLLOWING PRECEDING DAY'S ANNOUNCMENT 3.6 QUARTERLY CPI RISE, MAY NOT BE ENTIRELY COINCIDENTAL. TARIFF MOVE HOWEVER SEEMS WEAK MEDICINE BY ITSELF FOR SERIOUS INFLATION PRBOLEM THOUGH ITS LONG-RANGE EFFECTS MAY ULTIMATELY BE HELPFUL. WE INCLUNED TO SHARE VIEW ESPRESSED IN PRESS ACCOUNTS THAT THESE EFFECTS WILL BE SLOW IN COMING IN VIEW STRONG WORLD DEMAND FOR GOOD INQUESTION. HARROP

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: IMPORTS, ELECTRIC EQUIPMENT, TARIFFS, ECONOMIC PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974CANBER00508
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: CANBERRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740113/aaaaamfp.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: CANBERRA A-285 , DECEMBER 5, 1973
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 JUN 2002 by daviscw>; APPROVED <26 NOV 2002 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WHITLAM ANNOUNCES TARRIF REDUCTIONS ON DOMESTIC ELECTRIC APPLIANCES
TAGS: ETRD, AS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005